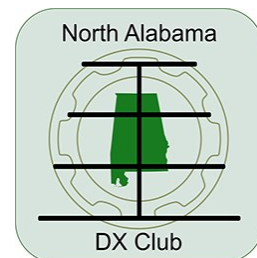


# The LongPath

May 2025 — Volume 49 Issue 5

A North Alabama DX Club Publication



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## Contributors:

AC4G

AG4W

K8KI

KI4KWR

N4NM

NG3K

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## From the President

By Bruce Smith, AC4G

We continue to have warm, wet weather as we enter the month of May. It seems like when I get ready to do some antenna work, it rains. I am glad the temperatures have turned off warm. I was able to work on my 160m vertical antenna and get it functional once again. You can read more about it in this month's LongPath newsletter.

Sadly, I recently sent out an email pertaining to the loss of one of our older NADXC members, Donald Bart Fay, W4NS (Ex-K4CEF) who resided in Huntsville, Alabama. He became a Silent Key (SK) on April 30. Many of the older DX'ers in the club knew Bart. In the early 2000's, Bart's love for the hobby changed as he picked up photography as his main hobby until his death.

Bart made a great DX spotting improvement for NADXC when he installed and managed the club's packet cluster in the 1980's even though we used the club's repeater as a backup. Bart was instrumental in getting the DX packet node to those DX'ers in the Shoals area for DX'ers such as Lile, K4NA (Ex-WB4VKW) and Ted, W4RJ (Ex-KI4M). He also connected the NADXC packet node to the Southeast DX Packet cluster allowing us to receive spots from other southeastern states, which made a tremendous difference for us in

the northern Alabama area.

In the early 1970's, Bart was a member of a group of DX'ers in the Atlanta area who operated from PJ2T for several years. He graduated from Georgia Tech and moved to Huntsville where he spent his time working as an electrical engineer. I met Bart in the 1980's and he was a key DX'er in the NADXC and a key operator in Field Day. He was an accomplished DX'er and always shared DX spots with others on the cluster. He had worked and confirmed 355 DXCC countries on the ARRL DXCC list as well as achieving DXCC Honor Roll. He will be missed by all his friends and family.

Dayton Hamvention is approaching, and I have heard many NADXC club members will be making the drive to Zenia, Ohio on or about May 15. I am hoping to meet many ham operators that I have worked on the air. I also want to see what's new for amateur radio. I also have some things I need to find and purchase for my station. Now that the hamfest season is here, perhaps we can all enjoy time with one another.

I would be remiss if I did not mention that Yuris, YL2GM is operating as ZS8W from Marion Island south of Capetown, South Africa. The last time I

## From the President (continued)

know that Marion Island was active was around 1997, so consider powering-up your stations and try to put this one in your logbook.

I am looking forward to our meeting on May 13 and seeing each of you and hearing about the DX we all have logged over the past month. Fred, K3FRK has lined up another great program for us. Please try to be present at this meeting. We will have more discussion about our banquet in August.

## DX on LEO Satellites By Steve Werner, AG4W

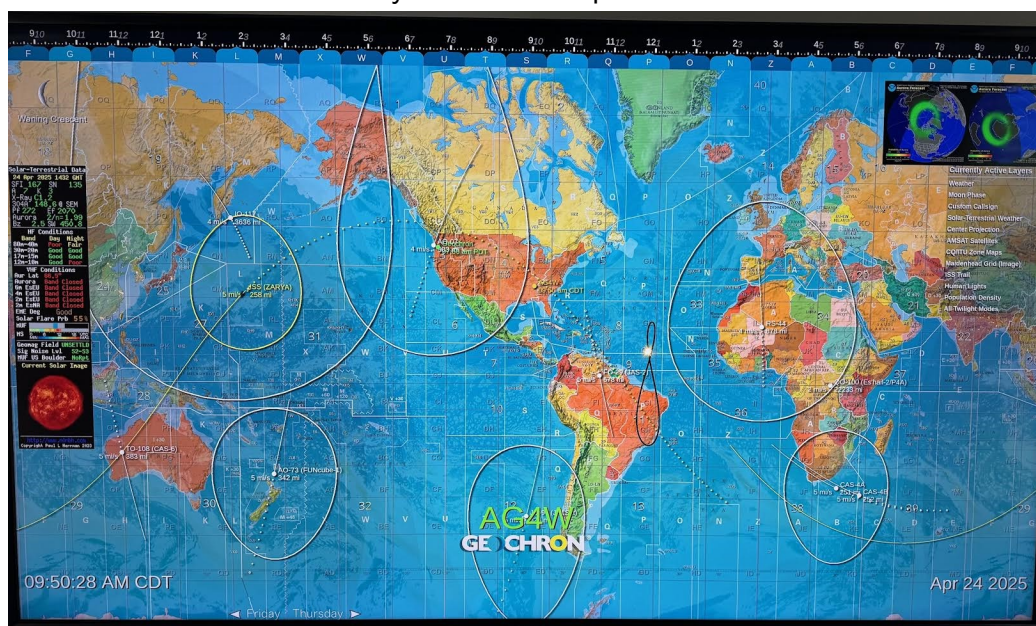
I was really excited about working DX on the IO-117 satellite. IO-117 had a medium earth orbit and had a large footprint making most of the earth workable from Alabama. It operated on 70cm in a psk digital mode. Unfortunately, IO-117 no longer operates even though it was launched in 2022. After reviewing the footprint of the RS-44 and AO-7 I decided to give the Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites a try. In the photo you can see the large footprint of IO-117 over the pacific, AO-7 over the US and RS-44 over Europe and Africa. My Geochron does a great job of showing satellite positions. RS-44 was launched in 2019 and AO-7 in 1974. AO-7 was dead for 21 years and came back to life after a shorted battery became an open cir-

cuit.

Recent LEO contacts have included HD8, G, HP, CO, XE, P4, KP4 and 8R. There is some activity on CW but most of it is on SSB. Most of the DX is worked when the elevation is low. That is when the satellite is far from us. Some of the DX openings are less than 1 minute. The typical time for a satellite pass on AO-7 or RS-44 is about 20 minutes. The signals are very strong at high elevations and can be very weak at lower elevations.

I use an ICOM IC-9700 with the S.A.T. interface box from CSN Technologies. The S.A.T. interface box takes care of predicting satellite passes, doppler correction, and antenna pointing with PST

Rotor software. I currently have the azimuth rotor automated but not the elevation rotor. I am still trying to get the ERC-M hardware to work with my Yaesu G-550 elevation rotor. The S.A.T. has a really nice software interface that displays a multitude of helpful information when working the satellites. I used SATPC32 from AMSAT before I purchased the S.A.T. interface box. Before that I tried using the satellite features in



Picture 1: AG4W's Geochron showing the footprints of several satellites.

## DX on LEO Satellites (continued)

Ham Radio Deluxe. I do not recommend that.

You need antennas for both 2 meters and 70 cm to work these satellites. You transmit on one band and receive on the other. On AO-7 you transmit on 70cm and receive on 2 meters (Mode B). RS-44 is the opposite (Mode A). Getting a satellite station working is the beginning of getting capability to work EME, which will require larger antennas and more power. Small yagis and the barefoot IC-9700 will get you into the linear satellites.



Picture 2: AG4W's S.A.T. interface and rotor controllers used to track the satellites.

## Tales from the Museum: The First Decade of Radio Growth

By Bob DePierre, K8KI

In early radio, major changes were a daily occurrence. The first two rows of broadcast radios in the museum, on the gray shelves, are full of these stories. Here are just a few.

Look at the 60+ radios on the 1920's row in the Museum. Their dials are all calibrated from 0 to 100, with no indication of actual frequency – which makes me wonder why they weren't calibrated in frequency? By this time we had sinewave-based transmissions and spark was on its way out. It might have had something to do with people not understanding either frequency or wavelength yet. Or it could have been the scarcity of fixed tuning capacitors, which came in only one value. On the second row of radios you can see two of them from 1931 that showed the frequency on the front bezel; most all of them showed the frequency in 1932, and all of them did from 1933 on.

All of the radios in the first row were made to receive AM broadcasts. All were built from circa 1921 through 1928, and they all operated from

batteries. These included 58 TRF (Tuned Radio Frequency) and three regenerative models. Although the regeneratives were superior in many ways, their production was hampered by patent litigation, and were not well represented over this period. The superheterodyne radios didn't start to appear until ~1925, but they cost a lot more.

I thought man had known radio math forever – but we didn't: 1) We have known the shape of a sine function for millennia, but weren't aware of its significance until the mid-1800s. Newton invented calculus around 1670 as he was searching for a mathematical description of why planetary orbits weren't perfectly circular. This new math was essential to Maxwell two centuries later. 2) Maxwell's Equations (1865) were merely a description of electromagnetic radiation. He wasn't thinking of radio, and certainly wasn't a circuit designer. 3) Hertz produced the first man-made electromagnetic waves in 1888, but his only interest was in proving Maxwell correct about radiating waves, and thought of his own work as solely



## Tales from the Museum: The First Decade of Radio Growth (continued)

“scientifically interesting.” He died at age 36 in Jan 1894. 4) Guglielmo Marconi (then age 19) read of Hertz’ achievements within a week of his death. Within that same year, Marconi had a wireless doorbell working. Not finding any financial backing in Italy, his mother moved with him to London, where they expected far more interest. His experiments continued at feverish pace, and by 1898 he had his first transmitter and receiver for sale. There is a photo of him that year with his first marketable equipment on the wall at the entrance to the Museum.

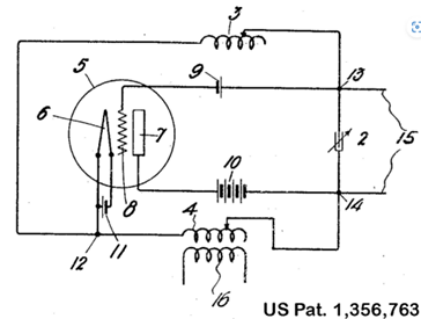


**Guglielmo Marconi**

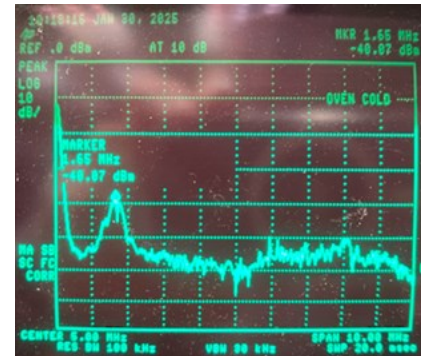
But this was “spark” radio. Marconi didn’t have any background or appreciation for the future of radio. He never picked up on new concepts such as resonance and oscillators, and stayed with wideband spark until the end. By 1915 his radio career was over and he went into politics with Mussolini in Italy.

By 1912, the Titanic had sunk, the US Congress passed the Radio Act (200 meters and down), and Armstrong had invented the regenerative receiver. By that time, it was apparent that a resonant circuit at the antenna would greatly narrow the spectrum required for a transmission, albeit still spark. And the method of feedback used in Armstrong’s regeneration was within an inch of the Hartley oscillator (1915).

Commercial and ham radio shut down for the duration of WWI, but became active again by 1920. By November of that year, KDKA got the idea of broadcasting the results of the presidential election, and an explosion of radio invention ensued. By this time, much of radio mathematics was understood, but only by a few people.



**Hartley Oscillator Circuit from Patent**



**Ham Spark Transmitter/ Resonant Filter at 1.65MHz**

Actually KDKA’s broadcast of Nov 1920 created little stir at first. The only people who could have heard the broadcast were ham operators, listening on their spark receivers. No one else had radios, and journals didn’t mention it for several months.

Since amateurs were predominantly young men with no money for manufactured apparatus, the radio industry in 1920 consisted of them and component makers. These and their families were likely the first broadcast fans. It was not until late 1921 that the general public began to be drawn in, and significant numbers of manufactured receivers sold.

Radio in 1920/21 was what it had been for 20 years: commercial ship-shore and transoceanic, but it doubled in the decade. If it wasn’t for the flock of amateurs experimenting with Armstrong’s regeneration patents, RCA would have had the field entirely to itself. RCA, GE, AT&T,

## Tales from the Museum: The First Decade of Radio Growth (continued)

Westinghouse, and United Fruit/Wireless spent a great deal of their energies fighting off their own licensees, but by 1925 when they had succeeded in driving them out of business, or into relying on some other circuit, a much more dangerous herd had their noses under the tent. Atwater Kent, Crosley, Sparton, and Zenith would soon take most of the market from RCA.

Statistics compiled by Radio Retailing show roughly a million homemade sets built each year, outnumbering factory production by 10:1 in 1922

and not surpassed until 1925. By mid-decade there were 30 radio periodicals, most of which printed plans for building the latest radio circuits. Large city newspapers had weekly radio supplements crammed with circuits to be built, along with advertisements for the parts necessary. If surviving specimens are any indication, many of these homebrew sets never worked when finished, if indeed they were ever finished.

There is not much written history for homebrew radios, although until 1925 they actually outnumbered manufactured radios, but dropped to a third by the end of 1929.

By that time, an industry that had barely existed 10 years earlier had sold \$3.5 billion of radios.

## Cancellation of the 2025 W4DXCC

By Steve Molo, KI4KWR



I wanted to provide a statement on the cancellation of 2025 W4DXCC DX and Contest Convention originally planned for August 15th at USSRC. So, in the initial planning it was always and will in the future be on the Friday before Huntsville Hamfest. This year we had a good opportunity where we could have had two rooms with presentations going on and would provide one place for DX and the other for contesting material. Everything was going well until I sent an email to a list that only covered the last eight years of solid attendees that I realized was not going to meet the need I had for attendance outside of Huntsville area. Take in the potential Huntsville local attendees it would have left a huge financial hole that was hard to overcome, thus reasons it faded away from Pigeon Forge

where ten years ago it was at the 200 plus attendance level.

The big question everyone has been asking...what about 2026? That is an honest mixed answer. The first part is on the Friday is easily possible with people just arriving on Thursday vice Friday from outside the area and an extra hotel night which for some is the factor. A few voiced in the past the NADXC banquet on Saturday and this also does cause an attendance factor for me. Before anyone jumps to the feeling that was the reason for 2025; it slightly was a reason for being cancelled. Other DX Conventions are seeing a decline in attendance and with POTA being the big amateur radio thing it makes it harder. Another true realization is the attendees are aging out and many have become silent keys.

Will it happen next year; at this point yes but held in a different direction with a possible different purpose/meaning. Stay tuned!!

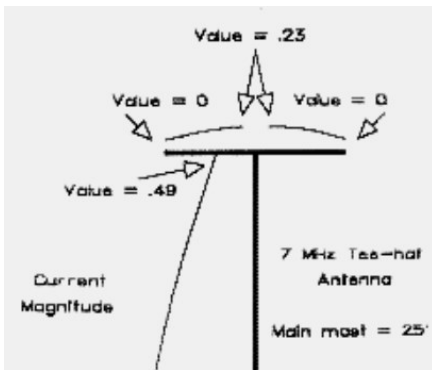
# Capacitance Hat Repair on My Top Band Vertical Antenna

By Bruce Smith, AC4G

Capacitance hats for antennas such as mobile antennas and even fixed HF antennas (see Pictures 1 and 2 – internet images) have been around for years since 1898 when the first patent was issued. Capacitance hats come in different shapes and sizes, one of which we will discuss in this article.



**Picture 1: Spoke Capacitance Hat**



**Picture 2: Tee Capacitance Hat**

I was first introduced to capacitance hats about twenty years ago by Tom Russell, N4KG (SK), since I had expressed a desire to get on the low bands, specifically 160m. N4KG suggested that I build a reverse fed, ground-plane vertical antenna to cover Top Band, 160m and 80m. Tom had one of many towers, but one with a single 120 feet tall Rohn 45 tower with a Hygain TH7DXX Triband Yagi. He experimented and built a reverse fed, ground-plane antenna which had exceptional performance on the low bands, specifically 80m and 160m making QSOs with some exotic countries such as XW, XZ, XU, XV, etc. in the Southeast Asia area of the world from North Alabama. He stated that the TH7DXX acts as a capacitance hat for his reverse-fed ground-plane antenna providing sufficient

bandwidth on either band to work DX. Tom, now a silent key, was once a fellow club member of the North Alabama DX Club (NADXC).

N4KG suggested that if my HF antenna was mounted atop a 60-foot or higher tower, then I could build this reverse fed ground plane antenna and the large Yagi on top of the tower, which was at that time a Wilson System I Triband HF Yagi with a long boom antenna would provide enough capacitance to act as the required capacitance hat. After our discussion, I began to look more into “why a capacitance hat”. I began researching what is a capacitance hat and learned how capacitance hats work. In my research, I found N4KG’s antenna in the ON4UN Low Band DXING Handbook. I also had his hand drawn notes that he had drawn for me on his recommended design that really piqued my interest in pursuing this topic further.

Further, I had asked myself, “What is a capacitance hat?” My research found that the capacitance hat was designed to reduce the Q of the antenna system, thus increasing its bandwidth. If the input impedance increased, the overall length at resonance would decrease, if designed correctly. The radiation resistance of a vertical antenna is a function of its electrical length, and how the current flows over that length. The only way to increase efficiency, besides reducing resistance losses causing coil Q affects, is to increase radiation resistance. This is a key point.

A good example for ease of understanding for increasing radiation resistance is that of a mobile antenna where the difference lies in the radiation resistance between a base loaded antenna and a center loaded one. A base loaded antenna has the highest current point right above the load-

## Capacitance Hat Repair on My Top Band Vertical Antenna (continued)

ing coil. By relocating the loading coil to the approximate center of the antenna, the current node will rise as well. This fact doubles the radiation resistance. It would double the efficiency as well, but there are more coil losses as center-loading approximately doubles the required reactance for resonance. Moving the coil higher up than the center point of an antenna, while increasing Q losses, offsets the increase in radiation resistance.

A better solution than moving the coil up to the center point of an antenna would be to capacitively load the antenna by installing a capacitance hat. The more capacitance above the loading coil, the higher the radiation resistance. Too large of a capacitance hat, relative to the wavelength, can cause the capacitance hat to radiate essentially reducing efficiency, not improving it. Today, we see capacitance hats in the design of many commercial HF Amateur Radio mobile antennas and ground mounted HF antennas.

Capacitance hats come in different shapes for HF antennas, but some perform better than others. A few that I have studied and discussed with other amateur radio DXers are the “TEE” shaped capacitance hats that are merely a piece of wire that is connected to the top of a vertical antenna at the desired band of one’s choice, stretching out on each side of the vertical. There are “square”-shaped capacitance hats and “rectangular”-shaped capacitances hats that fit on the top side of the vertical antenna. There are also “spoke”-shaped capacitance hats. All types of capacitance hats require some form of tuning circuit, typically an inductor network at the base of the antenna, while the capacitance hat fits at the

top of the antenna (See Picture 3).

My custom designed capacitance hat (See Picture 4) allows my vertical monoband antenna to operate on 160m with unparalleled success because my antenna is only 55 feet tall. My current antenna is made of aluminum tubing, having graduated to tubing after having fun with my Inverted-L wire antenna. I am using this antenna hoping to increase my performance on the 160m band.



**Picture 3: Inductive Network Tuning for Vertical Antennas**

Recently, in late December 2024, my Top Band antenna bandwidth dropped off from 40KHz to 1 KHz after being damaged by the strong tornadoic winds from the Athens, Alabama tornados that passed up our way in southern Tennessee. I was devastated that I could not operate on Top Band. I have been off-the-air on 160m since December 2024 and I was ready to do some repairs since the temperatures are warmer and it is now May 2025 as I write this article.

While many vertical antennas are made of wire and are held by a tall pine tree here in Tennessee and northern Alabama, as I mentioned, my 160m vertical is made of tubular aluminum with a wire capacitance top hat (See picture 4). The devastating high winds wrapped my wire capacitance top hat around the tubular aluminum, with three sections of



**Picture 4: AC4G's Custom Designed Pyramid-Shaped Capacitance Hat (160m)**



## Capacitance Hat Repair on My Top Band Vertical Antenna (continued)

aluminum tubing also being bent in a “U-shape” after the winds quickly passed leaving my antenna non-functional. I purchased replacement tubing to replace these bent sections of tubing.

My 160m antenna top-hat is large enough that the current along the radiator is almost constant. Typical shortened verticals for this band, with smaller top-hats have currents that vary along the length and end up producing much less signal strength. My antenna also works in the receive mode to let you hear weaker signals, but as one knows, vertical antennas exhibit a huge amount of noise and require dedicated receiving antennas due to the huge amount of noise on 160.

My capacitance hat is made up of plastic mounting hardware at the top of the antenna to allow for strain relief (See Picture 5). The capacity hat uses four 39-foot 14-gauge wires coming from the top of the antenna in a four-sided pyramid shape connected to four 24-foot 14-gauge wires at the base of the pyramid. The bottom joints of the pyramid-shaped capacity hat are guyed using the parachute rope to the guy points that are 55 feet from the antenna base.

After lowering my 160m to the ground, I was able to inspect and make some measurements using an ohm meter. After inspecting and measuring all the wires making up my pyramid-shaped capacitance hat, I finally found why my bandwidth changed on my antenna from a bandwidth of 40KHz to 1KHz. The high winds had broken one leg of my capacitance hat on one wire terminal on one 39-foot wire coming from the top of the pyramid to the base of the pyramid. This

broken wire was a tale-tale sign that the capacitance hat had a broken wire somewhere within the perimeter of the capacitance hat. With the broken wire, it acted as though I had no capacitance hat; hence, decreasing the active bandwidth of this antenna.



**Picture 5: Repaired Wire Terminal at Top of Capacitance Hat**

After removing the wire terminal from this broken wire and using my soldering iron to reinstall a new terminal, I reassembled the wire pyramid-shaped capacitance hat (See Picture 5). Further inspection revealed that I was ready to raise my vertical Top Band antenna back into the vertical position.

After re-installing the parachute rope that forms the pyramid capacitance hat, I was ready to do some testing via my Rig Expert and finally performing on-the-air tests. Using my rig and calling CQ on-the-air, I witnessed great SWR and maximum power via the power meter. All tests showed positive results. My bandwidth had also increased from 1KHz back to 40KHz. Later that night, I performed a few more tests transmitting and calling CQDX. The reverse beacon network (RBN) resulted in my signals being received all over the United States, Europe and into Kazakhstan with 180 watts. I was pleased with these results.

In summary, it was a NADXC elmer who suggested that I become familiar with capacitance hats and their function. I am grateful to the challenges by fellow NADXC hams that offer many suggestions to allow me to experiment and continue to use my knowledge of electronic theory. I am also glad I am back on-the-air after some devastating damage caused by mother nature. My advice is to never let anything stand in your way to get on the air, especially if you are not active on a



## Capacitance Hat Repair on My Top Band Vertical Antenna (continued)

particular band. Many hams are always available to help and provide advice when you most need it. I thank Tom, N4KG for challenging me to look at his antenna design ideas using capacitance hats that he passed along to me. I hope this article has intrigued someone to do a deep dive into this subject and improve their current station antennas or merely understand a new electronic concept.



**Mark your calendars!**

**Huntsville Hamfest will be August 16th and 17th.**

**The NADXC banquet will be Saturday evening, August 16th.**

**Banquet tickets are now on sale on the [NADXC website!](http://www.NADXC.org)**

## Upcoming NADXC Meeting

Tuesday, May 13, 2025  
5:45 PM Doors open / 6:30 PM  
meeting

**Program:** “N5J DXpedition to Jarvis Island” by Don Greenbaum, N1DG

Pre-watch: [N5J Highlight Video](#)

**Location:** Signals Museum of Information Explosion, 1806 University Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35801 and via [Zoom](#)

## About the NADXC

### 2025 NADXC Officers and Directors

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| President      | Bruce Smith, AC4G   |
| Vice President | Fred Kepner, K3FRK  |
| Sec./Treasurer | Bob De Pierre, K8KI |
| Directors      | Chuck Lewis, N4NM   |
|                | Mick Bell, N8AU     |

### How to Join

Come to a club meeting or send in an application by mail (form on [www.NADXC.org](http://www.NADXC.org))

### Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held at the Museum of Information Explosion at 6:30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Participants can also join the meeting virtually via [Zoom](#).

This edition of The LongPath published by  
Fred Kepner, K3FRK

## Upcoming DX Contests

By Chuck Lewis, N4NM



### CQ-M Intl. DX Contest (CW & SSB), 160-10M

May 10, 1200Z to May 11, 1159Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial #

See page 73, May QST and <https://cqm.srr.ru/rules/>

### Volta WW RTTY DX Contest (DIG), 80-10M

May 10, 1200Z to May 11, 1200Z

Exchange: RST, plus S/N, and CQ zone

See page 73, May QST and

[www.contestvolta.com](http://www.contestvolta.com)



### DARC FT4 Contest (DIG), 80M

May 13, 1900z to May 13, 2029Z

Exchange: RST plus 4-char. grid

See page 73, May QST and [www.darc.de](http://www.darc.de)



### His Majesty King of Spain Contest, (CW), 160 – 10M

May 17, 1200Z to May 18, 1200Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial # or EA Province

See page 73, May QST and

[www.concursos.ure.es/en](http://www.concursos.ure.es/en)



## UN DX Contest

### UN DX Contest, (CW & SSB), 80 -10M

May 17, 0600z to May 17, 2100Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus serial or Kazakhstan district code

See page 73, May QST and [www.undxc.kz/rules-eng](http://www.undxc.kz/rules-eng)

Dates & times often change or are misprinted in the journals; beware. See also: <http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

### EU PSK DX Contest, (DIG) 80– 10M

May 17, 1200Z to May 18, 1200Z

Exchange: RST plus Serial or EU area

See page 73, May QST and

[www.eupsk.club/eupskdx/eupskdxrules.pdf](http://www.eupsk.club/eupskdx/eupskdxrules.pdf)



### Baltic Contest, (CW & SSB), 80M

May 17, 2100Z to May 18, 0200Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus serial

See page 73, May QST and

<http://www.lrsf.lt/en/>



### CQ WPX CW Contest (CW), 160-10M

May. 24, 0000Z to May 26, 2359Z

Exchange: RST plus serial #

See page 73, May QST and

[www.cqwpw.com/rules.htm](http://www.cqwpw.com/rules.htm)



### Russian Multi-mode Contest (CW & SSB & DIG), 160 – 10 M

May 31, 1200Z to June 1, 1259

Exchange: RST (Q) plus Serial # or 2-char. oblast

See: <https://www.rdrclub.ru/news-radio/russian-ww-mm-contest/159-rus-ww-multimode-contest>



### ARRL International Dig. Contest, (DIG), 160 – 6M

June 7, 1800z to June 9, 2400Z

Exchange: 4-character grid square

See <https://contests.arrl.org/dig/>



### Asia-Pacific Sprint (SSB), 20 & 15M

June 14, 1100Z to 1300z

Exchange: RS plus serial #

See <http://jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt>





## DXpeditions in May 2025

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|               |               |                     |         |                |  |
|---------------|---------------|---------------------|---------|----------------|--|
| 2025<br>May06 | 2025<br>May17 | Kosovo              | Z68TT   | LoTW           | By 1I1HT 12PJA 12YSB 1K2CKR 1K2HKT; 80-6m; CW SSB RTTY FT8; will also use Z68ZZ; QSL via 12YSB   |
| 2025<br>May06 | 2025<br>May26 | Cape Verde Is       | D4      | M00XO          | By DF2WO as D44TWO and KN6ZZI as D44ZZI fm Ponta Achada; 160-6m, incl 60m; SSB CW FT8 FT4  |
| 2025<br>May07 | 2025<br>May14 | Guernsey            | GU6EFW  | ON6EF<br>(B/d) | By ON6EF ON1BN ON7TA ON6VJ ON9DJ ON7VM ON4AML fm IOTA-114; HF incl WARC bands; SSB CW + digital  |
| 2025<br>May08 | 2025<br>May15 | El Salvador         | YS3     | LoTW           | By PY8WW as YS3/PY8WW fm Zacatillo I (IOTA NA-190, EK63ch); 80-6m; SSB CW + digital; QSL via Club Log OQRS   |
| 2025<br>May09 | 2025<br>May11 | Guernsey            | GU80LIB | LoTW           | By Guernsey Amateur Radio Society; HF; QSL via Club Log OQRS   |
| 2025<br>May09 | 2025<br>May16 | Cyprus              | 5B      | LoTW           | By F5IRO as 5B/F5IRO; 40-6m; CW FT8 FT4; QRP; QSL via F5IRO (B/d)  |
| 2024<br>May11 | 2025<br>May18 | Liechtenstein       | HB0     | LoTW           | By DL2SBY as HB0/DL2SBY; HF + 6m; QSL via DL2SBY direct  |
| 2025<br>May13 | 2025<br>May18 | Honduras            | HR4     | PY8WW<br>OQRS  | By PY8WW fm Tiger I (IOTA NA-060); 40-10m; CW SSB + digital  |
| 2025<br>May16 | 2025<br>May29 | Bonaire             | PJ4M    | LoTW           | By PH2M fm IOTA-006 (FK52uf); 80-10m; mainly FT8, some SSB; 100w; QSL via Club Log OQRS or PH2M direct (w/3 USD)   |
| 2025<br>May18 | 2025<br>May27 | St Kitts &<br>Nevis | V4      | LoTW           | By AC6ZM as V4/AC6ZM fm St Kitts; 160-6m; CW FT8 RTTY, some SSB; QRV of CQ WPX CW with V49K  |
| 2025<br>May20 | 2025<br>May27 | Martinique          | TO3E    | LoTW           | By AB2E fm IOTA NA-107; focus on WARC and low bands; mainly CW, some FT8 RTTY; QRV for CQ WPX CW Contest; QSL via AB2E direct  |
| 2025<br>May20 | 2025<br>May30 | Kosovo              | Z6      | OH2YL          | By OH2YL as Z68YL and OH2LGW as Z68OM; 160-10m, incl 60m; CW SSB FT8   |
| 2025<br>May22 | 2025<br>May27 | Aland Is            | OH0ERF  | OH0ERF         | By DG0OCG DL1STL DL1TAM DL5ARI DL5AXI DO6KD; 40 20 15 10 6 2m + 6.7cm; SSB CW FT8 QO100  |
| 2025<br>May22 | 2025<br>Jun01 | Palau               | T8      | See Info       | By JF1GHX as T88FG and JK1SZX as T88SG fm Koror I (IOTA OC-009); 160-6m; SSB FT8; QSL T88FG via LoTW or JF1GHX direct, T88SG via JK1SZX Buro                         |
| 2025<br>May26 | 2025<br>Jun08 | French<br>Polynesia | TX5U    | LoTW           | By F6BCW fm Tikehau, Tuamotu Archipelago (BH54uv); 40-6m; CW SSB; QSL via Club Log OQRS, LoTW after 6 months   |
| 2025<br>May26 | 2025<br>Jun08 | St Lucia            | J6      | LoTW           | By SM0FPR as J6/SM0FPR; HF; mainly CW, some SSB; QSL via SM0FPR  |
| 2025<br>May27 | 2025<br>Jun02 | Niue                | E6RS    | LoTW           | By ZL1RS fm Makefu; 6m, perhaps 10m; FT8 EME; QSL via ZL1RS  |
| 2025<br>May27 | 2025<br>Jun02 | St<br>Barthelemy    | FJ      | LoTW           | By NP4G as FJ/NP4G; HF; POTA activation BL-0001; holiday style operation   |
| 2025<br>Jun01 | 2025<br>Jun10 | Faroe Is            | OY      | LoTW           | By WB2REM W9MK W2WCM G6TFL VO1IDX K3BAB K4LT W4VKU as OY6FRA OY6A OY/W9MK OY/K4LT; 160-6m; CW SSB FT8 FT4; QRV for ARRL VHF Contest; QSL via Club Log OQRS or WB2REM |







# DXPeditions in May 2025

(continued)



|               |               |           |    |          |   |
|---------------|---------------|-----------|----|----------|---|
| 2025<br>Jun04 | 2025<br>Jun18 | St Martin | FS | LoTW     | By K9EL as FS/K9EL; 40-6m; holiday style operation; QSL via Club Log OQRS   |
| 2025<br>Jun06 | 2025<br>Jun11 | Palau     | T8 | See Info | By JH1MLO as T88HR and JR1FKR as T88TJ fm Koror I (OC-009, PJ77fi); 80-6m; SSB FT8; QSL via JH1MLO & JR1FKR respectively (B/d), LoTW OK for T88TJ |
| 2025<br>Jun06 | 2025<br>Jun13 | Jersey    | MJ | M0URX    | By ON4ANN + ON team as MJ/OP2D; HF; SSB CW FT8  |



## Club Business and Announcements

### April 2025 Financial Report

by Bob DePierre, K8KI

| Budget Category               | 2025 Budget   | Year to Date   | Begin May      |              |
|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>Year Start</b>             | <b>5803</b>   | <b>5803.41</b> | <b>5146.66</b> |              |
| <b>Dues In</b>                | <b>1100</b>   | <b>932.54</b>  | <b>40</b>      | cash         |
|                               |               |                | <b>66.41</b>   | paypal       |
| <b>Recurring Exp</b>          | <b>-1106</b>  |                |                |              |
| repeater elect                | -63           | -116           |                |              |
| web hosting/domain service    | -77           | -16.88         |                |              |
| repeater maintenance          | 0             |                |                |              |
| to HARC for Zoom              | -50           | -50            |                |              |
| use of museum                 | -400          | -400           |                |              |
| DX Plaques                    | -216          |                |                |              |
| Miscellaneous                 | -300          |                |                |              |
| <b>Other Transactions</b>     | <b>-1200</b>  |                |                |              |
| Donations/equipment to sell   | 0             | 3700           | 3700           | W4ABW estate |
| Dxpeditons                    | -1000         | -200           |                |              |
| Picnic                        | -200          |                |                |              |
| ARRL Bricks                   | 0             |                |                |              |
| <b>DX Banquet</b>             | <b>730</b>    |                |                |              |
| Huntsville Hamfest Donation   | 500           |                |                |              |
| venue                         | -700          | -700           |                |              |
| food                          | -2400         |                |                |              |
| speaker+room+travel           | -450          |                |                |              |
| ticket sales                  | 4100          | 305.06         | 305.06         | 7 tix sold   |
| raffle                        | 400           | 30             | 30             |              |
| grand prize                   | -400          |                |                |              |
| beer/wine/soft drinks/glasses | -200          |                |                |              |
| insurance                     | -120          |                |                |              |
| <b>Year End Bank Balance</b>  | <b>5,327</b>  | <b>9288.13</b> | <b>9288.13</b> |              |
| <b>Other Asset 3-month CD</b> |               | <b>5055.07</b> | <b>5055.07</b> |              |
| <b>Total Assets</b>           | <b>10,552</b> | <b>14343.2</b> | <b>14343.2</b> |              |
| Asset delta                   | -251          |                |                |              |

Thanks to Al Watson's kindness, we are now showing a bottom line of +\$3540 instead of -\$251. We have made so far \$55.07 on our savings account, and \$3,700 in sales of Al's equipment. On the side we have started selling Banquet tix in April - for the first time, and even some raffle tix.

## April 2025 Meeting Minutes

By Bob DePierre, K8KI

- AC4G opened the meeting at 6:30pm. There were 17 members present.
- New member Don Bertram/N4SEI was voted in unanimously, as well as Jim Brown/W1WSF and his XYL. Cash dues received from N4JR/Gerry and N4SEI/Don. Other dues received via Paypal: Billy Gold, Jim Brown, and Chuck Lewis.
- The March minutes and the financial report were approved.
- Bruce announced that Al Watson had donated all of his equipment to the club and that it was for sale.
- There was a detailed discussion on the Bouvet DXpedition next Feb. Since several recent Bouvet DXpeditions have done poorly, there is going to be extra effort to assure this one is successful. Of course, that is going to greatly increase the costs, and the team is looking for ways to spread that cost, such as inviting observers along.
- The Hamvention is coming up in May. We are still looking for a Hamfest speaker for our Banquet.
- Norm is moving away, and is selling his MA550 aluminum tower.
- The program was presented by Rikk Lewis/WE9G, from Chattanooga. Rikk has been a ham for 4 years, since he retired from the Army. During that time he participated in an amazing number of one-man DXpeditions: Kosrae Is., Caringbah/Australia, Matoury/French Guiana, Frigate Bay, Futiga/Samoa, Longyearbyen/Svalbard, Tortola/BVI, Deadhorse/North Slope of Alaska, Big Bend/Tx, Iqaluit/Canada, and Key West/FL. He described those adventures for us.

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## 2025 Banquet Grand Prize Received

Yaesu and Gigaparts have donated a Yaesu FT-710 AESS HF/50MHz 100W SDR transceiver for the grand prize at this year's banquet.

Banquet tickets and more information are now available on the [club website](#).





## North Alabama DX Club (NADXC)

### “Club Fact Sheet”

**Who We Are:** NADXC is a group of active radio amateurs with a deep compassion for working DX, contesting, and other aspects of Amateur Radio. We welcome everyone who is interested in joining our club. NADXC members are active in all facets of DX and contesting. The NADXC also donates funding for various DXpeditions all over the world. The NADXC sponsors a DX Banquet in mid-August of every year in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest in Huntsville, Alabama. NADXC members moderate various programs at club meetings and during the Huntsville Hamfest, covering amateur radio technical and operating topics for all to learn and enjoy. The NADXC sponsors a prestigious award at the end of year for the most deserving DXer of the Year from the NADXC club.

**DX Funding Policy:** The policy supports major DXpeditions that meet our requirements for financial sponsorship. Details are available on the NADXC website and in the “LongPath” newsletter.

**Club History:** The NADXC was organized in December 1966 by a group of 12 charter members. The original constitution was adopted and signed on December 19, 1966. The first chairman was Dan Whitsett, W4BRE (SK). In the early-1970's, the NADXC was custodian of the W4, K4 QSL Bureau which became such a huge undertaking that it eventually was passed to other larger clubs. In January of 1977, the club bought a VHF repeater for sharing DX spots and hosting a weekly net on Wednesday nights. The repeater was located on Redstone Arsenal, Weeden Mountain using the frequencies of 147.91/147.31 MHz on two meters. Today, the repeater has been relocated and utilizes the frequencies of 147.90/147.30 MHz, with a callsign of W4QB. The weekly net has been discontinued. In 1980, the club started the monthly newsletter known as the “LongPath” which currently continues to be produced every month.

While organized as a DX club, NADXC members are active in all aspects of the hobby. We trust that this information will be of interest to all and hope all hams have a long and pleasant association with the NADXC.

**Requirements for Membership:** The NADXC welcomes all hams radio operators who have an interest in DXing. It does not matter whether you are a new ham, a seasoned ham operator, an old-timer to DXing, or a ham who has just been hit with the DX bug; everyone is welcome! See the club website: [www.nadxc.org](http://www.nadxc.org). Dues are paid in January of every year.

**Meetings:** The NADXC club meets the second Tuesday night of every month, with the current location at the Signals Museum of Information Explosion (MIE) located at 1806 University Drive, Huntsville, Alabama and virtually via Zoom. Some members gather early to eat their dinner, socialize, discuss DX worked, and then we have a short business meeting starting at 6:30 P.M. CT. followed by an exciting, interesting program to help, entertain, and teach members about DX and amateur radio in general.

**Club Officers:** There are four elected officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer) and three elected directors on the NADXC Board of Directors. The current roster of club officers and directors can be seen on the NADXC web site or in the “Longpath” newsletter, which is uploaded each month to the club website.

**Website:** The NADXC club maintains a website at [www.nadxc.org](http://www.nadxc.org). This site provides club information and activities throughout the year about a variety of subjects related to the club, DX, and amateur radio.